

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 105

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Joanne M. Ramko on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Joanne M. Ramko is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for twenty-seven years as an esteemed teacher in Cannon County and for twenty-four of those years as a deeply admired teacher at Short Mountain School; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ramko will be taking a much deserved retirement at the conclusion of the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to teaching in a manner that serves both children and their parents, Joanne Ramko has continually sought to raise her students' self-esteem and personal vision to a higher level; and

WHEREAS, she is profoundly grateful to her parents, especially to her father, whose encouragement and hard work enabled her to pursue a college education and achieve her dreams; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ramko is also deeply thankful for the influence of Joe Davenport, the Superintendent who first gave her the opportunity to teach in Cannon County, and of Claudet Alexander, who hired her as a teacher at Short Mountain School in August of 1985; and

WHEREAS, during her first year at Short Mountain School, Joanne Ramko filled in for Mrs. Hughes, a teacher who had taken a year-long maternity leave; at the conclusion of that year, when Mrs. Hughes moved to Smyrna, Ms. Ramko received a full-time teaching position; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years at Short Mountain School, Joanne Ramko has enjoyed watching her three sons mature into adults, marry beautiful women, and bless her with four beloved grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as she has observed her own children growing older, she has also had the joy of watching many of her second- and third-grade students grow and mature and have children of their own, some of whom she has had the privilege of teaching; and

WHEREAS, Joanne Ramko says her education, being hired in Cannon County, and receiving her first teaching position at Short Mountain School significantly changed her life, and she adds to the list a number of teachers and staff who have been her loyal friends and emotional support during her time as a teacher; and

WHEREAS, among these people for whom she is most grateful, Ms. Ramko names Mr. Pitts, Mrs. Greta, Mrs. Brenda, and all of the teachers and staff who work tirelessly and employ all of their time and energies on behalf of the children at Short Mountain School; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Ms. Ramko is the proud grandmother of Brianna, Joshua, Jacob, and Kate, whose company she always enjoys; and

WHEREAS, for her many years of dedicated and compassionate service, she will be specially honored at a retirement dinner at Short Mountain School on the evening of Friday, May 8, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Joanne Ramko exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, she has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect, admiration, and friendship of her colleagues and students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Joanne M. Ramko our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.